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FOOD INFORMATION CALENDAR

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KNOW THE BASIC SEVEN?..... Here's an opportunity for housewives to get a copy of the Basic 7 Chart. During January, the "National Wartime Nutrition Guide" is being offered through OWI's radio station announcement plan. The Guide is a folder that not only pictures the Basic 7 but also gives long lists of specific foods under each group heading and tells what foods to eat more of when foods in one group are short. It is being offered because in a recent survey of a large group of women, 82.7 percent said they did not own one and 97 percent of those who did not have one wanted the chart. It may be obtained by simply writing to "Basic 7," United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

SAVE CONTAINERS TO EASE SHORTAGE

GROWERS, SHIPPERS AND HANDLERS are being warned of an anticipated shortage in new containers, especially wooden boxes and crates and mesh bags. Educational emphasis will be on persuading the buying public to accept fruits and vegetables in used containers so that retailers, in turn, won't turn up their noses at less attractive used containers. There are sufficient commercial salvage dealers to assemble and handle used containers but they can't operate unless retailers will create demand for them. Now is the time to explain the certainty of new container shortages when the shipping season starts, so that reserves of used containers will be on hand. Supply may fall short of need by 10 to 20 percent. Watch for press release now in the mill.

LATEST REPORT ON FARM MACHINERY..... indicates that the manufacture of new farm machinery will supply about half the demand in 1944. So, don't let up on the "care, repair and share" program for farm machinery and equipment.

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RATIONING LIFTED ON PRESSURE COOKERS ..... for home canning, and on feed grinders and crushers, according to WFA. As the available supply of pressure cookers will not meet all uses, the order requires the approval of WFA for purchases of pressure cookers for other than food preservation uses. Purchasers of pressure cookers for non-food-preservation uses should apply to the Director, Office of Materials and Facilities, War Food Administration, Washington 25, D. C. (See press release USDA 1343-44)

LOOK FOR A PROGRAM ..... pushing "no-point, low-point foods." This will come during Feb. 15-April 15 period. Stores will be asked through their associations to put on promotion (probably during a week or two of that period) with aid of a kit of streamers, pennants, posters, stack-cards and price tags. These tie in local-market "no-point, low-point" foods with keeping the "Home Front Pledge," Nutrition's Basic Seven, and idea of helping your grocer. Nutrition committees will be asked to stress recipes and menus using local-market "no-point, low-point foods." More specifics later.

CHANGES MADE IN RESPONSIBILITY ..... for rationing farm machinery and equipment at state and county levels, announced by WFA (Press release USDA 1343-44). Administrative changes in WFA place farm rationing and distribution functions under the jurisdiction of State Agricultural Adjustment Agency committees at the State level and under County Agricultural Conservation Associations (AAA) at the county level. Jurisdiction was formerly under the State and County USDA War Boards.

CHECK FOOD WASTE ..... That's part of the FFFF program, and current surveys indicate a slight downward trend in the amount of food wasted by American families. These facts will interest you:

BALTIMORE has strict rules for keeping garbage separated from other refuse and weighs every pound that is collected. Their records show a sharp drop in the per capita waste during 1941, although the figure is still about 1/2-lb. per person each day.

SAMPLE studies in seven representative cities (Charlotte, N.C., Shreveport, La., Tacoma, Wash., Lansing, Mich., Kansas City, Mo., Elmira, N.Y., and New Kensington, Pa.) indicated a reduction in the amount of waste.

THE AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION is conducting a survey of selected cities to determine the amounts, kinds and sources of food wastage, as reflected in garbage statistics during 1943. (It may be several weeks before these data are available.)

ALL OF THE DATA obtained to date show a slowly declining amount of waste and are remarkably consistent in indicating a wastage by consumers of from 10 to 20 percent of the food purchased.

CONSUMER TIME

WACS ARE CONSUMERS, too, you know! Four of them, on active duty at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, will participate in a quiz program dealing with fabrics -- cotton, wool, and rayon, how to take care of them and some of the important things to look for when buying them. Backing up the program, the HOME LAUNDRY BOOKLET will be offered listeners; it describes short cuts and easier methods for doing home laundry. That's Saturday, January 8, 12:15 EWT, NBC.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING ON FFFF ?

IN FALLS COUNTY, Texas, a poster contest was held in schools, with the best going on display in local stores and restaurants. ..... Similarly in Austin, but the students went one step further. They arranged the window displays.....In Louisiana, Allen Parish home economics girls were trained to go into classes and present food facts, and distributed food quiz to be taken home by oldest member of each family represented in the school. The State Nutrition Committee sent out a release to all newspapers and to the clergy of the state on the FFFF program, offered nutrition material or a speaker to organizations that cover the state, and two questionnaires, one designed principally for rural groups, the other on nutrition in general, went to all parish chairmen for local use. ..... In Nashville, Tenn., the George Peabody College home economics and dramatic clubs presented "Food Makes History" over radio station WSIX, with the station arranging the necessary sound effects and music. A series of four radio programs emphasizing the four phases of the slogan were broadcast, one each week, over WSM, Nashville..... ...Tennessee has injected FFFF into a series of bakers' meetings, and plans to do the same with state-wide grocers' meetings.

MONDAY	- Jan. 3 -	Dr. P. N. Annand, Chief, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, and M. L. DuMars, "The Fight Against Insects and Plant Disease."
TUESDAY	- Jan. 4 -	Ruth Van Deman and Marc Gordon, FDA, "Recipes for School Lunches," and H. L. Shrader, Extension Poultry Specialist, and Wallace Kadderly, "Cull the Flock in January."
WEDNESDAY	- Jan. 5 -	"Know Your War Crops, #4 - Wood", Al Bond, Radio Service.
THURSDAY	- Jan. 6 -	Frank Hancock, FSA, "The Small Farmer in 1944." UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS (Last installment in Farm and Home series.)
FRIDAY	- Jan. 7 -	Post-War Agriculture #5 - "Saving Land Resources," Dr. H. H. Bennett, Chief, SCS.